the farmers in the event of failure of crops as a result of natural calamities, pests and diseases. The scheme is available to all the farmers-loanee and non-loanee both-irrespective of their size of holding.

Micro-Irrigation in Rajasthan

2590. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land proposed to be brought under micro-irrigation in Rajasthan during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) the total area of land brought under the scheme in the State, so far;

(c) whether Government would increase the financial assistance from the present 50 per cent to 75 per cent cost of the material as Rajasthan is a poor desert State; and

(d) how much aid has, so far, been provided by the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) An area of 81836 ha. has been proposed to brought under Micro Irrigation Scheme in Rajasthan State during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

(b) An area of 12832 ha. of land has been brought under the scheme in the State of Rajasthan since the launch of the Centrally Sponosored Scheme of Micro Irrigation during 2005-06.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) So far, an amount of Rs. 2481.34 lakhs has been provided by the Centre to Rajasthan State under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation since its inception (2005-06).

Survey for paying remunerative price to farmers

†2591. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers are not getting price of their production

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

vis-a-vis increasing prices of implements, fertilizers and seeds used for agricultural production;

(b) whether Government would conduct a survey in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) In fixing the support prices of major agricultural commodities, the Government takes into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). In formulating its recommendaitons on prices, the CACP in order to ensure that the price covers cost of production and also provides a reasonable profit margin, conducts detailed review of cost of cultivaiton and production including changes in input prices and parity between prices paid and received by farmers. The cost of cultivaiton/production taken into account includes all paid out costs, such as, those incurred on account of hired human labour, bullock labour/machine labour (both hired and owned), cash and kind expenses on use of material inputs like seeds, fertilizers and depreciation of agricultural machinery and implements owned by the farmers etc. The cost of production covers not only actual expenses in cash and kind but also imputed value of owned assests including land and family labour. The cost estimates are generated on the basis of regular survey under the "Comprehensive Scheme for Studying the Cost of Cultivation of Principal Crops in India" conducted through the State Agricultural Universities.

Constitution of National Rain-fed Area Authority

2592. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constitued a National Rain-fed Area Authority as announced by the hon'ble Prime Minister in his Independence Day speech in 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof including its mandate and time-frame for accomplishment of specific tasks targeted, if any, for the authority; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?